PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 04S0419P	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below	
International application No. PCT/JP2004/006609	International filing date (day/month/year) 11 May 2004 (11.05.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 12 May 2003 (12.05.2003)	
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237			
Applicant TOKYO ELECTRON LIMITED			

1.	This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis. 1(a).		
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 8 sheets, including this cover sheet.		
	In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.		
3.	. This report contains indications relating to the following items:		
	Box No. I	Basis of the report	
	Box No. II	Priority	
	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	
	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	
	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	
	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	
	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	
	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application	
4.	The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).		

	Date of issuance of this report 16 March 2006 (16.03.2006)
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